

**To:** Meiburg, Stan[Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov]  
**From:** Hague, Mark  
**Sent:** Fri 10/16/2015 4:31:45 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Westlake Landfill

Dana and I had a great week.

Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 16, 2015, at 11:01 AM, Meiburg, Stan <[Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov](mailto:Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov)> wrote:

Well, I am sorry to hear that! Hope we have left you mostly alone this week!

And, BTW, Congratulations!!!!

Stan

*A. Stanley Meiburg, Ph.D.*

*Acting Deputy Administrator*

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*

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*Washington, DC 20460*

**From:** Hague, Mark  
**Sent:** Friday, October 16, 2015 11:59 AM  
**To:** Meiburg, Stan <[Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov](mailto:Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Westlake Landfill

Stan

Thanks. About to get on call on planning for more direct and personal engagement.

Mark

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 15, 2015, at 7:07 PM, Meiburg, Stan <[Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov](mailto:Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov)> wrote:

Mark, I hope you do not read this until this weekend, but I thought it would give you some context on why a meeting on this subject has popped up on the Administrator's calendar for next week. Be happy to talk with you further, but not until next week!

Stan

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Purchia, Liz" <[Purchia.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Purchia.Liz@epa.gov)>  
**Date:** October 15, 2015 at 11:38:35 AM EDT  
**To:** "Meiburg, Stan" <[Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov](mailto:Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Westlake Landfill

Agreed. David, Nancy, Nichole and I are all on a call with Curtis to talk about what worked in Camp Minden.

**From:** Meiburg, Stan  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 15, 2015 11:30 AM  
**To:** Purchia, Liz <[Purchia.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Purchia.Liz@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Westlake Landfill

Thanks, Liz. Mark Hague is out this week, but I'd be happy to talk with Mike Brincks (Acting DRA) if needed. Mark will be back in next week.

It seemed to me that Camp Minden worked because Ron Curry really personally and skillfully jumped in with both feet (with good help from David Gray). It helped that we could do reach out up here with the Army—may not be as applicable at Westlake.

Stan

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**From:** Purchia, Liz  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 15, 2015 10:39 AM  
**To:** Meiburg, Stan <[Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov](mailto:Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Westlake Landfill

I do think the region is heavily involved in the issue but I think there's more that can be done. We need more regular updates from them so we can feel comfortable. I think there are lessons from Camp Minden that they could use. I'm talking to the PAD at 11.

Liz Purchia

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On Oct 15, 2015, at 10:35 AM, Meiburg, Stan <[Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov](mailto:Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov)> wrote:

Liz, do you share Mathy's optimism about this?

Stan

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**From:** Stanislaus, Mathy

**Sent:** Thursday, October 15, 2015 8:35 AM

**To:** Meiburg, Stan <[Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov](mailto:Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Breen, Barry <[Breen.Barry@epa.gov](mailto:Breen.Barry@epa.gov)>; Natarajan, Nitin  
<[Natarajan.Nitin@epa.gov](mailto:Natarajan.Nitin@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Westlake Landfill

Very much involved - I actually think that the Region is doing as much as it can to engage the public and think through cleanup options. There are two related but separate activities - one relates to the Superfund issues that are driven by rad waste, the other is municipal landfill that has had an underground fire that has resulted in excessive smoke that is led by the State. The smoke from the fire has caused a lot of angst and anti nukes/environmental groups from outside the area have made this site a cause celeb. The region and HQ are working through technical issues regarding the cleanup and expect to issue a proposed plan shortly. Based on all information we have we don't believe that the underground

fire is or will go where the rad waste is.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 15, 2015, at 7:55 AM, Meiburg, Stan <[Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov](mailto:Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov)> wrote:

Mathy, the story below was of concern to the Administrator. Are you involved in this one, and does Region 7 need any additional support in thinking through our communication strategy here?

Stan

**News Headline:** School districts prepare for West Lake Landfill emergency | [<image001.gif>](#)

**Outlet Full Name:** St. Louis Post-Dispatch

**News Text:** Four school districts near the radioactive West Lake Landfill in Bridgeton sent letters to parents Monday explaining their plans for a potential emergency at the site.

"We remain frustrated by the situation at the landfill," wrote Mike Fulton, superintendent of the Pattonville School District. "This impacts not only our community, but the entire St. Louis region."

The letters from Pattonville, Orchard Farm, St. Charles and Francis Howell districts used similar language to describe what will happen if toxic fumes are released into the community. Students will either shelter in place at their schools or will be evacuated as directed by emergency responders.

"We prepare our kids for tornadoes, fire drills, intruder alerts, but how do you prepare them for something like this?" asked Rhonda Marsala, who has a son at Pattonville High School in Maryland Heights and a daughter at Holman Middle School in St. Ann. "The fact that these young children know about it, and they have anxiety over it, it's very unfair to them."

An underground fire at the Bridgeton Landfill is moving toward radioactive waste in the adjacent West Lake landfill, according to Missouri Attorney General Chris Koster, who has sued the landfills' owner Republic Services for environmental violations. Reports released by Koster last month also showed that radioactive waste has contaminated trees and groundwater outside the perimeter of the landfill, where World War II-era uranium byproducts were dumped illegally in the 1970s.

But analysts with Republic Services show the company's gas wells aimed at keeping the smoldering heat from reaching the radioactive waste have been successful. The Environmental Protection Agency, which oversees West Lake Landfill as a toxic Superfund site, has also made repeated assurances that the site poses no threat to local residents and workers.

The 63043 ZIP code, which includes Rose Acres Elementary School and Pattonville High, has a higher-than-average rate of brain and nervous system cancers among children 17 and younger, according to a 2014 state health report. The schools are less than two miles from the West Lake Landfill. Soil testing for radiation at the schools in the summer of 2014 did not turn up any levels of concern.

Samantha Colbert has a fourth-grader in the Orchard Farm School District in St. Charles County, which sent a letter Monday stating parts of the district are about four miles from the landfill.

"The seriousness took me by surprise," Colbert said. "We think we're north of everything, but then to start reading and realize even though you're north you're still in immediate risk if something like this were to happen."

A community meeting on the landfill situation will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at John Calvin Presbyterian Church in Bridgeton, 12567 Natural Bridge Road.

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